GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3806
ANSWERED ON:24.03.2017
Overcharging of Imported Medicines and devices
Vanaroja Smt. R.

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is the fact that the patients are being overcharged for the imported medicines and devices;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to come up with a system to ensure that the patients are not overcharged; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a) to (d): Health is a state subject. It is the responsibility of the State/Union Territory Government to take necessary steps to ensure that patients are not overcharged. Any complaints received regarding overcharging by hospitals are forwarded to the State/UT concerned. The Government of India has, however, enacted the Clinical Establishments (Registration and Regulation) Act, 2010 and notified Clinical Establishments (Central Government) Rules, 2012 for registration and regulation of Clinical Establishments. In accordance with the aforementioned rules, the clinical establishments (in the States/UTs where the said Act is applicable) are to charge the rates for each type of procedures and services within the range of rates determined and issued by the Central Government from time to time in consultation with the State Governments. The clinical establishments are also required to display the rates charged for each type of services provided and facilities available, at a conspicuous place both in the local language and English. The National Council for Clinical Establishments has approved a standard list of medical procedures and a standard template for costing medical procedures which has been shared with the States/UTs where the Act is applicable for taking appropriate action by them. The enforcement of this Act is also within the purview of the State/UT Governments.